

Golden Voice of Girl, 15, Amazes Opera Critics

Daughter of Kansas City Telegrapher Triumphs at Audition Before Gatti-Casazza at Metropolitan

Parents Present at Test Home City Has \$10,000 to Make Marion Talley Famous Diva Some Day

A fifteen-year-old girl, looking younger with her long curls and her simple dress, walked out on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera House yesterday afternoon to sing for perhaps a dozen men and women, who seemed almost lost in the dreary emptiness of the dusty hall. In one corner, hidden behind the footlights, were her father and mother, gripping their seats to hide a nervousness which she herself dared not betray. Two or three friends who came on from Kansas City sat near them. At the piano was her sister, smiling encouragement. But the rest of the audience was made up of critics, who later admitted they had come prepared with words of kindly depreciation for her voice, and upon the judgment of these critics her career depended.

A group to unnerve any singer. One of the listeners was Otto H. Kahn, chairman of the board of directors of the opera house, who had dropped in after Gatti-Casazza, another in the audience, had told him hesitatingly that there might be a "find" in the young singer. Four of the Metropolitan's conductors had dropped in to find what was behind the flamboyant praises which had preceded the girl on her way East—Arthur Bodansky, Roberto Masetti, Louis H. Engel, and Giuseppe Ambrosio. Nahana Franko slipped quietly into a seat, and William J. Guard, the veteran press representative, took a place in the rear.

That was the audience before which fifteen-year-old Marion Talley, daughter of a telegraph operator on the Missouri Pacific, was to sing. It was an audience which had heard hundreds of auditions, an audience before whose faint praise hundreds of local reputations had withered.

Yesterday, however, it was a different story. The girl filled the opera house with a lyric soprano so remarkable that signs almost of agitation began spreading over the faces of the critics. Gatti-Casazza betrayed unusual interest. Bodansky leaned forward, peering over the horn-rimmed glasses from behind which he had been gazing. Moranzoni smiled.

"That's all we want," said one of the Kansas City friends, a lawyer, when the singer stopped. "We wanted your judgment to make sure we were right about Marion's voice, and now we have it. The girl doesn't need any help to give her all the backing she wants."

Kansas City Backs Her

The conductors and maestro crowded about the girl, showering her father, mother and friends with congratulations. "She's every bit as good as Kansas City thinks she is," said Mr. Kahn. "I can find no fault."

Mr. Guard gave the thought that seemed uppermost in every mind when he said: "After all the false alarms we get it certainly is a pleasure to have some on strike 12." The critics began talking of another audition in the Metropolitan three years from now, when Marion's voice has developed.

"Then, of course," they shrugged. "Until then, however, the girl is not to appear in concert or opera. Her backers agreed with the critics that it would be best to take no chances with a voice until it is fully matured. Kansas City has raised \$10,000 for her musical education and she will begin studying here at once."

Last night she and her friends celebrated her triumph.

Italian Textiles Sold

The sale of art objects from the collection of Emil Feller, which at Anderson Galleries yesterday consisted largely of the Spanish and Italian textiles and embroideries of antique origin and some of the furniture, mainly reproductions, which were sold for a total of \$6,484.50.

A chintz upholstered wing back walnut armchair, Queen Anne style, brought the best price of the session, which was \$125, going to E. H. Brown. Two Chinese Chippendale style mahogany armchairs upholstered in eighteenth century damask went to Mrs. Isabella Friedman for \$100.

The sale continues daily this week.

Jeanne Eagels Joins Ranks

Of Stars in Theater World

Following the opening of "Rain" at Maxine Elliott's Theater on Tuesday night, Sam H. Harris decided that Jeanne Eagels's performance merited her promotion, and accordingly Miss Eagels yesterday was given all the honors of a full-fledged star.

Dana Burnett has written to Mr. Harris regarding the title he is using at Maxine Elliott's Theater. In the summer of 1922 Mr. Burnett produced a play called "Rain," a dramatization of his own story of the same title at Ogunquit, Me. Mr. Burnett wrote that he did not object to the present use of the title, but that he wished to call attention to the fact that he had priority of title and production and asked Mr. Harris to make the fact public.

Fund-Raising for Louvain

University Opens Here Dec. 3

A campaign to raise \$1,000,000 in this country for the restoration of Louvain University as a gift from the United States to Belgium, will be started December 3, it was announced last night at a meeting of educators at the Army and Navy Club to consider plans for the completion of the war memorial gift. New York's quota of the fund will be \$200,000.

Whitney Warren, the architect in charge of the project, reported on the work that had been done. George J. Ryan, president of the Board of Education, presided at the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Blaustein to Observe Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Blaustein, of 516 Tiffany Street, the Bronx, will celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary Saturday evening at Martineau's restaurant, where a party of relatives and friends are expected. After the dinner there will be dancing and a vaudeville entertainment.

Mr. Blaustein controls the newspaper concession at the Manhattan end of the Brooklyn Bridge and has been in business on Park Row for twenty-five years. Practically everybody that uses the bridge knows "Sammy" and enough of them have formed the habit of buying the paper from him to enable him to celebrate his tenth wedding anniversary in a manner befitting the occasion.

May Korb Reveals Lovely Voice in Debut Recital

Powers Still Immature but She Sings Charmingly and in Nice Taste

Between an exhibition of gifted immaturity, when it is past the period of precociousness, and of mediocrity which conceals want of talent behind bumptiousness it is easy to make a choice. We have some of the former in our vocal and instrumental recitals and a great deal of the latter. Gifts and graces though exhibited when they are still unripe are entitled to encouragement, though they sometimes call for a warning; mere arrogance can best be disposed of by silence on the part of a reviewer. That there is criticism in absence of criticism is a fact which is pretty generally recognized in the art world, and of all rebukes that which is the most efficacious to ill-advised pretenders is silence on the part of reviewers. To ill-advised pretenders—let that qualification be noted—artists of approved excellence are not affected, for they need no introduction, and to multiply words adds nothing to their merits.

Miss May Korb, who gave a song recital in Aeolian Hall yesterday afternoon, is a young woman who has not reached the zenith of her powers (far from it), but who makes a beautiful offering now and a promise of something beautiful in the future. Her voice is small, almost fragile, but it is of lovely quality. Her range of expression is not great, but within it she exhibits musical intelligence of a refined order and nice taste. She sang a long list of German, French and English songs, and sang them all charmingly, with the allurements which come from equable tone, musically phrasing, an appreciation of the sentiment of the poet so far as it was echoed by the composer, a fine sense of the melodic line, a recognition of style.

H. E. K.

City Uged to Celebrate

Tercentenary of Purchase

Suggestion was made by Mayor Hylan yesterday that the city fittingly celebrate in 1926 the tercentenary of the purchase of Manhattan Island from the Indians. The club, through its officers, and board of directors, has been asked to call the attention of the municipal authorities to the anniversary. It is planned to interest Governor Miller and Secretary of State Hughes in the movement.

The Stage Door

"It is the Law," a melodrama by Elmer L. Rice, from a story by Hayden Taber, will open at the Court Square Theater, 40 West 42nd St., to-night. It will play for a week, and has been before coming to New York. Some of the members of the cast are: Mrs. John Keenan, Arthur Hohl, A. H. Van Buren, William Ingersoll, Rose Burdick, Alexander Orloff and Hans H. H. H.

The Neighborhood Playhouse lecture series opened last night with the third lecture by Stark Young on the subject of "The Playhouse." The lecture was given in the lecture hall of the playhouse, which has been planned to give a general history of the drama, and particularly to furnish a background for the work which the Neighborhood Playhouse hopes to do on its reopening in the fall of 1923.

Max Bendix has been engaged by the Selwyns to direct the orchestra for the production of "Johannes Kreisler," the fantastic melodrama which will be presented next month. The play is by the star E. N. von Rosenick, in writing the interpretative music for Johannes Kreisler, utilized, in part, motifs from Hoffmann's "Undine" and Mozart's "Don Juan."

Jane Manner will read Zangwill's "Merely Mary Ann" and Schnitzler's "Love Hours" at the Court Square Theater, 40 West 42nd St., to-night. This is the second in her series of lectures on the drama, and she is planned to give a general history of the drama, and particularly to furnish a background for the work which the Neighborhood Playhouse hopes to do on its reopening in the fall of 1923.

The Catholic Actors' Guild will hold its annual memorial service for its members who have died in the war, at 11 o'clock in the Actors' Chapel, St. Malachy's Church, 242 West Forty-ninth Street.

Helen Herenden has resigned from the chorus of "The Passing Show of 1922" at the Winter Garden Theater, 138 West Forty-seventh Street, on Sunday night.

Rodolph Valentino, in "The Young Rascal," will remain for a second week at the Rivoli.

"Rolling Down to Rio With Secretary Hughes," motion pictures of the Secretary of State's trip to Brazil, will be one of the features at the Capitol Theater, 138 West Forty-seventh Street, on Sunday night.

Changing Policies, author of "The Fool," which the Selwyns are presenting at the Times Square Theater, will be the guest of honor at the Greenwich Club dinner and revel at the club quarters, 138 West Forty-seventh Street, on Sunday night.

Mischa Levitzki Gives Brilliant Piano Recital

In Excellent Technical Form at Carnegie Hall; Hattowitsh Appears With Violin

An impression of brilliance was the principal one given by Mischa Levitzki, reappearing after a season's absence for a piano recital last night in Carnegie Hall, where he began with Bach's Prelude, Choral and Fugue, a Gluck melody and Schumann's Etudes Symphoniques. Technically, he was in excellent form, finding no difficulties in the most complicated passages or highest speeds, in which runs were rippled off with notable smoothness.

His performance was, in general, clear-cut and revealing, always emphatic and sparing no effort in the loudest parts of the more grandiose numbers, the Schumann Etudes, for instance, the Chopin A-flat major Polonaise and Liszt's Twelfth Hungarian Rhapsody, when he almost rose from his seat in striving for extra force in the climaxes. But shading was not absent; there were effective contrasts of light and shade, as in the Polonaise, where the long gradual crescendo was well handled.

In the two French numbers, Ravel's "Jeux d'Eau" and Debussy's "La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin," Mr. Levitzki kept a firm, sustained, emphatic touch, not hard, but perhaps ruthlessly revealing, allowing no softening of the lines. His picture, while his story of Chopin's numbers were well executed, brilliant rather than emotional. Mr. Levitzki

also appeared as a composer, with a melodious, reflective Etude and a waltz in A major, Op. 2, graceful and rather Chopinesque—and this last was especially favored by the large audience in distinctly favoring mood.

Meanwhile, at the Town Hall, Abraham Hattowitsh, accompanied by David Sapir, was giving a violin recital with Bach's Chaconne, Lalo's Symphonie Espagnole and shorter pieces. His blindness apparently did not prevent him from being a very respectable violinist with an able technique, while his passages, was agreeable, though it was apt to be overdone during technical complications. But so it happens with many other violinists, and his hearers were very friendly.

"Thin Ice" Will Move to Belmont Theater on Monday

"Thin Ice," now at the Comedy Theater, will move next Monday night to the Belmont Theater. The cast includes Percival Knight, Olive Wyndham, Gilda Leary, C. Henry Gordon, Felix Krembs, H. Dudley Hawley and T. Tamamoto. "Kempy," now at the Belmont, will close Saturday night and during the trip east was met at the succeeding attraction at the Comedy Theater, opening next Tuesday night, is A. A. Milne's "The Romantic Age."

Junior K. of C. Proposed

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 8.—Martin H. Carmony, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been appointed chairman of the Knights of Columbus committee to study means for the formation of a junior order of the Knights, it was announced here to-night. Mr. Carmony is deputy supreme knight.

AMERICA'S FOREMOST THEATRES AND HITS, DIRECTION OF

WINTER GARDEN (42nd St., 138th St. & 140th St.)

LAST 4 WEEKS, POP. MAT. TO-DAY

THE PASSING SHOW OF 1922

(Presenting WILLIE & EUGENE HOWARD)

Johnson's 59th St. (42nd St. & 138th St. & 140th St.)

THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

Comedy

Century (42nd St., 138th St. & 140th St.)

BLOSSOM TIME

2nd TRIUMPHANT YEAR

BROADHURST (42nd St., 138th St. & 140th St.)

SPRINGTIME OF YOUTH

THE PERFECT MUSICAL PLAY

Comedy

MOVES 6 BELMONT (42nd St., 138th St. & 140th St.)

PRINCESS

6 CHA R A U D E S

IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR

Comedy

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Liner Polk Arrives Moist To Meet British Decree

The President Polk of the United States Lines, which docked here yesterday from London, was another vessel to come under the London Board of Trade ruling, requiring every ship that leaves the English capital to have a gallon of brandy aboard for every 100 of the steerage passengers. As a consequence, the liner had four gallons under seal upon her arrival in Hoboken.

C. J. Anderson, who has been representing the Shipping Board in Havre, was a passenger on the President Polk. He reported that American vessels were gaining in popularity in Europe despite being dry. He attributed this to the fact that he thought the service and cuisine on American ships superior to others.

Dr. J. D. Jungman, the ship's surgeon, was removed from the liner when she docked and was taken to a hospital for treatment. He contracted a blood poisoning while attending a patient on the voyage.

Mrs. Harry M. Russeau, wife of Admiral Russeau, U. S. N., became ill during the trip and was met at the pier by her husband. She had been on a trip through France visiting the battlefields.

The President Van Buren of the United States Lines, sailed for London, taking Mrs. Marcellus Thompson, daughter of George Harvey, American Ambassador to Great Britain, and her daughter Dorothy. They will pass the winter holidays with Mr. Harvey.

Asked about her father's statement about women and souls, Mrs. Thompson said: "You don't know my father or you wouldn't believe he spoke that way."

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